DAIDS

VIROLOGY MANUAL

FOR HIV LABORATORIES

Version
January 1997

Compiled by

THE DIVISION OF AIDS

NATIONAL INSTITUTE OF ALLERGY & INFECTIOUS DISEASES

NATIONAL INSTITUTES OF HEALTH

and

COLLABORATING INVESTIGATORS

VIROLOGY SPECIMEN STORAGE RECOMMENDATIONS (for ACTG laboratories)

The recommendations for adult and pediatric specimen storage have been developed for Adult ACTG and Pediatric ACTG laboratories. ACTG Investigators are strongly encouraged to use storage recommendations in all new ACTG study protocols whenever possible. Their use will save freezer space, which is at a premium in most labs, and will reduce technical error.

A. Specimens from Adult Patients

Serum (SER)	1.0 mL X 5 aliquots
Plasma (PLA)	1.5 mL X 6 aliquots
Cells DMSO (CEL) Viable uncultured cells	5×10^6/0.5 mL X 4 aliquots
Qualitative Culture Supernatants Isolated from positive qualitative cultures	1.0 mL X 4 aliquots used for additional isolates as needed
Presumed Low Passage isolate (PLP) Low passage isolate from positive quantitative culture	0.5 mL X 4 aliquots
Ministocks Quantitative Cultures (STK) Isolate from positive quantitative cultures	1.0 mL X 4 aliquots
Cultured Dry Cell Pellets (CDP) Non-viable cell pellet from positive quantitative culture	4 microcentrifuge tubes (uncounted)
PCR	Whole blood processed per kit requirements in individual laboratories. Storage of PCR samples should be one of the following: (WBP) 3 Dry Pellets from 0.5 mL blood (PEL) 2 or more Ficoll Pellets 1×10^6 cells

B. Specimens from Pediatric Patients

The suggested amounts are for optimal storage and/or processing. If less blood is obtained than the 4 mL, please refer to the Priorities List on the following page for guidance.

Serum (SER)	0.5 mL X 4 aliquots
Plasma (PLA)	0.5 mL X 2 aliquots minimum, 4 aliquots

Cells DMSO (CEL) Uncultured cells - viable	5×10^6/0.5 mL X 2 aliquots (freeze in 2 aliquots if cell count is low)
Qualitative Culture Supernatant (SUP) Isolate from positive qualitative culture	1.0 mL X 4 aliquots
Dry Cell Pellets (PEL) Non-viable cells	1 whole blood pellet 0.5 mL
Presumed Low Passage Isolates (PLP) Low passage isolate from positive quantitative culture	0.5 mL X 4 aliquots
Ministocks Quantitative Cultures (STK) Isolate from positive quantitative culture	1.0 mL X 4 aliquots
Cultured Dry Cell Pellets (CDP) Non-viable cell pellet from positive quantitative culture	4 microcentrifuge tubes

PCR Whole blood processed per kit requirements in individual laboratories. Storage of PCR samples should be one of the following:

For infants less than 18 months of age:

(WBP) 3 Dry pellets from 0.3 mL blood

For infants older than 18 months of age:

(WBP) 3 Dry pellets from 1.5 mL blood
(PEL) 3 Ficoll Pellets 1×10^6 cells

C. Proposed Priorities Listing

For volumes of blood 2 mL:

Plasma: Test and store remainder
Qualitative Culture
PCR
Cells in DMSO
Dry Cell Pellets

PROTOCOL VIROLOGISTS SHOULD PROVIDE PRIORITY INSTRUCTIONS WHEN INSUFFICIENT SAMPLING IS AVAILABLE TO ACCOMPLISH PROTOCOL REQUIREMENTS.
type.